

**CLAIMS**

- 1     1.     A computer system comprising:
- 2                 a processor for operating a software application in the computer system;
- 3                 the software application providing for creation, storage, and retrieval of a
- 4     file, the file having a corresponding profile that the software application uses for at
- 5     least the purpose of preparing the software application to display the file upon its
- 6     retrieval by the software application;
- 7                 a plurality of storage media that are communicatively coupled to the
- 8     processor; and
- 9                 a storage management module that distributes stored files and their
- 10    accompanying profiles among the plurality of storage media according to
- 11    predetermined patterns, one of such predetermined patterns being separate storage
- 12    of a file and the file's corresponding profile.
- 1     2.     The computer system of claim 1-wherein at least one of the plurality of storage
- 2     media is located locally.
- 1     3.     The computer system of claim 1 wherein at least one of the plurality of storage
- 2     media is located remotely.
- 1     4.     The computer system of claim 1 wherein the separate storage by the storage
- 2     management module is configured to provide more rapid retrieval of the application
- 3     specific profile than of the file associated with the application specific profile.

1 5. The computer system of claim 1 wherein the profiles that are stored among the  
2 plurality of storage media comprise different profiles for different versions of a  
3 corresponding file.

1 6. The computer system of claim 1 wherein the storage management module provides  
2 concurrent access of the profile and the file.

1 7. The computer system of claim 1 wherein the profile is retrieved prior to the file and  
2 sets up the software application in preparation for receipt of the file.

1 8. An application specific profile storage and retrieval system comprising:  
2 a software application that creates files with corresponding profiles specific  
3 to the software application and each of the files that are created, the software  
4 application being operable by a processor;  
5 a plurality of storage media that are selectively used by the processor to  
6 store the application specific profiles separately from the files; and  
7 a storage management module operable by the processor that manages  
8 storage of the application specific profiles and the files such that application  
9 specific profiles may be retrieved separately from the corresponding file itself.

1 9. The application specific profile storage and retrieval system of claim 8-wherein at  
2 least one of the plurality of storage media is located locally.

1 10. The application specific profile storage and retrieval system of claim 8 wherein at  
2 least one of the plurality of storage media is located remotely.

1 11. The application specific profile storage and retrieval system of claim 8 wherein the  
2 separate storage by the storage management module is configured to provide more rapid  
3 retrieval of the application specific profile than of the file associated with the application  
4 specific profile.

1 12. The application specific profile storage and retrieval system of claim 8 wherein the  
2 profiles that are stored among the plurality of storage media comprise different profiles for  
3 different versions of a corresponding file.

1 13. The application specific profile storage and retrieval system of claim 8 wherein the  
2 storage management module provides concurrent access of the profile and the file.

1 14. The application specific profile storage and retrieval system of claim 8 wherein the  
2 profile is retrieved prior to the file and sets up the software application in preparation for  
3 receipt of the file.

1 15. A method for storage and retrieval in a computer system comprising:  
2 creating a file with a software application that creates a corresponding  
3 profile that accompanies the file with each access of the file, a new profile being  
4 created at least each time the file is saved;  
5 sending the file, with the software application, to a storage management  
6 module that manages storage of the file with its accompanying profile;  
7 storing the file and its accompanying profile to separate storage locations in  
8 the computer system;

9                    requesting for the retrieval of the file with the software application such that  
10                   the storage management module retrieves the file with its accompanying profile as  
11                   though the file and its accompanying profile were located in a single position; and  
12                   formatting the software application with the retrieved profile prior to  
13                   display of the file with the software application.

1    16.    The method of claim 15 wherein the software application is selected from the group  
2    consisting of a word processor, an engineering graphics program, a standard graphics  
3    program, and a web browser.

1    17.    The method of claim 15 wherein a different profile is stored with the storage of  
2    each version of the file as the file is created.

1    18.    The method of claim 15 wherein the storage management module distributes  
2    different files and versions of those files in a first set of storage media and stores different  
3    profiles for each of the files and version of those files in a second set of storage media.